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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE DISTR. 22 March 1951

SUBJECT Tank Brigade at Kazanluk; Airfields

NO. OF PAGES 1

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ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

NO. OF ENCL. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF 25X1A

INFO. [REDACTED]

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

1. An unidentified tank brigade is stationed at Kazanluk in the barracks formerly occupied by 23 Infantry Regiment. A Russian colonel living in the city is reported to be attached to this unit for lectures and inspections.

2. The tanks and equipment are located at three places: at the barracks of the unit, where informant has seen 20 heavy Russian tanks, five or six armored cars, and 20 to 30 new 10-ton trucks; at the old airfield on the northwest side of the city, where some 40 to 50 heavy tanks are covered with wax cloths; and about four kilometers northeast of Kazanluk on the road to Dolno Izvorovo village. At the latter location several buildings have been converted into barracks.

3. The tank units train on a field between Kazanluk and Dolno Izvorovo, practicing passing over tank ditch barriers and conducting attack maneuvers. Attack training usually consists of advancing in a line and then turning from center to right and left in half circles to form a large circle surrounding the objective. Summer maneuvers are conducted in the Tilovo (sic) woods.

4. The 2 Anti-Aircraft Regiment is stationed on the southeast side of Kazanluk near the military arms factory (Zavod No. 10). The commanding officer is a Major Puvtev. This unit has both light and heavy anti-aircraft guns; 20 to 30 of each.

5. Work has begun on a new airfield in an area six kilometers south of Kazanluk near the village of Ovoshnik. Two hangars have been built and observed two or three training type bi-planes. Stones and brick are being carried to the site.

6. In 1948 the planes at the old airfield in Kazanluk were transferred to Lovech and Marno Pole, between Karlovo and Kalofer.

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Comment: [REDACTED] describes the airfields at Kazanluk in more detail and confirms the use of the old airfield by a tank unit.

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